

P-HSJCC Bi-Monthly Updates Meeting Highlights

July 20, 2021

PROVINCIAL HSJCC UPDATES

Updates from the Secretariat:

- Please see attached document for updates on P-HSJCC provincial projects and network support functions.
 - Shawn Chirrey, Interim Director of Public Policy for CMHA Ontario announced we have successfully recruited a new candidate for the newly created Junior Analyst position within the HSJCC Secretariat. A formal introduction will be sent by email to the Provincial HSJCC.
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Amendments to the P-HSJCC Terms of Reference Background Section:

- The Secretariat presented revised amendments to the background section of the **P-HSJCC Terms of Reference** with a focus on the language that should be used for consideration of priority populations for approval:
 - *Priority consideration will be made for individuals with complex human service's needs, which may include, but are not limited to those living with mental health issues, substance use concerns and/or behavioural dependencies, or neurodevelopmental and neurocognitive disabilities. The HSJCCs are a cooperative effort of the Ministries of the Attorney General, Children, Community and Social Services, the Solicitor General, and Health.*

ACTION: The Secretariat to follow up with MCCSS representatives to confirm the appropriate language that would be inclusive of developmental disabilities and dual diagnosis before approval.

Discussion re: Dismantling of Community Advisory Boards

- In June 2021, the Secretariat was first made aware **Community Advisory Boards (CABs)** were being dismantled. CABs were independent bodies appointed by the Solicitor General established to strengthen links between the community and provincial institutions.
- Ashley Lawrence, Manager of Oversight and Accountability (SOLGEN) attended the July P-HSJCC meeting to provide further details around the decision to dismantle CABs and clarification on the role of HSJCCs:
 - There were overall challenges with recruitment and retention of qualified candidates from across the province who matched the diversity of the Ontario population and client population in correctional institutions. There was also significant administration required to maintain 30-60 public appointments for the 10 CABs.
 - HSJCCs were not considered as a replacement for CABs but considered as a possible partner for engagement for community reintegration plans in the fall of 2021.

- Members who may have further questions around this decision are encouraged to contact [Ashley](#) directly.

Recommendation to P-HSJCC from HSJCC Transition from Custody Network:

- The Secretariat led a discussion regarding a recommendation from the **HSJCC Transition from Custody Network** (Community of Practice) around addressing late releases from correctional institutions.
 - The Network is planning to conduct a provincial survey to determine where late releases may be occurring and identify where things are working well. The results of this survey could inform a submission that, if approved, would be made by the P-HSJCC to the Ministry of the Solicitor General (SOLGEN) and Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG).
 - SOLGEN noted they have developed a new unit focused on community reintegration and discharge planning with pilot sites identified in each region. The P-HSJCC will need to ensure there is not a duplication of efforts and that we are complimenting the work that is already underway with SOLGEN's plans for consultation.

ACTION: The Secretariat to consult with SOLGEN around the HSJCC Transition from Custody Network survey and the best way to move forward.

Presentation from Lifeguard: Digital Health Application:

- Colton Calderone, Senior Product Manager, Lifeguard Digital Health and Juanita Larson, CEO, NorWest Community Health Centre presented on the **Lifeguard Digital Health Application Pilot**:
 - One year pilot launched June of 2021 and funded by The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board and Ontario Health -Addiction and Substance Abuse Program.
 - Addresses the issue of substance use and overdose for individuals using alone.
 - P-HSJCC members who are interested in learning more about the app can contact [Colton](#) and [Juanita](#).

Discussion re: Provincial-level Advocacy for Northwest Mental Health Assessment Regional Trials:

- Giulia Daniele, Registered Nurse and Jen Bertoni, Interprofessional Educator Mental Health and Addictions from Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre presented on the **North West Regional Mental Health Assessment Trials (MHAT)**:
 - The Northwest MHAT provides a pathway for transfer of care to Adult Schedule 1 beds that is clear, consistent, and equitable across Northwestern Ontario.
 - There is an opportunity to profile the successes of the North West MHAT that prompt provincial direction around the transfer of care to schedule 1 facilities in other rural areas of the province.

Updates from the Secretariat
P-HSJCC Meeting of July 20, 2021

P-HSJCC Financial Update

A breakdown of the Provincial HSJCC's Q1 (April 1-June 30) budget totals have been included in the meeting package.

Recruitment of HSJCC Junior Policy Analyst Position

CMHA Ontario is in the process of conducting interviews for the newly created Junior Analyst position within the HSJCC Secretariat. The Secretariat will have the new team member on board by August 2021 and will provide an introduction via email to the Provincial HSJCC.

Advisory Committee Updates

P-HSJCC 2021 Conference Planning Committee

The Conference Planning Committee has been meeting on a regular basis discuss the planning of the Virtual HSJCC Conference on November 16-17, 2021. The abstract submissions for the concurrent sessions were reviewed by a subcommittee and confirmations were sent out to the selected presenters. [Registration](#) for the conference was announced on June 24th. Keynote speakers and panelists are still being confirmed.

Engaging Persons with Lived Experience (PWLE) Advisory Committee

The PWLE Advisory Committee continues to meet on a regular basis to move forward with the development of a guidebook containing strategies and resources that Local and Regional HSJCCs can use to improve the engagement of PWLE in their work. The committee moved to a bimonthly meeting schedule beginning in June.

Anti-Racism Committee

The P-HSJCC Anti-Racism Committee has been convening monthly to finalize their Terms of Reference and identify potential future areas of work. The committee developed a survey that was sent out to Regional and Local HSJCCs to identify the various needs of committees to addressing anti-racism efforts across the network. Survey results will be shared at the August Anti-Racism Committee meeting.

Community of Practice Update

HSJCC Transition from Custody Network

The Transition from Custody Network recently launched an online forum, housed on the Provincial HSJCC Forums website. The forum has created an opportunity for members to

connect and share information between meetings. The Network continues to meet every month to discuss issues impacting clients leaving correctional facilities.

P-HSJCC Project Updates

Cannabis and Drug Treatment Court Project

The Cannabis and Drug Treatment Court Team is using a mixed-methods approach to assess the perception of cannabis use and mental health from both client and service provider participants. The client participants include individuals currently going through the Drug Treatment Court program. The service provider participants include individuals working within Drug Treatment Courts including program managers, court liaisons, Crown attorneys, defense and duty counsel, judges, mental health and addictions counsellors, social workers, and support coordinators.

Over the last few months, the Research Team has been working with Drug Treatment Court champions to facilitate the recruitment of clients and service providers to complete the first round of surveys. Client participants will be provided with a survey to complete every three months over the period of one year. Six months after the surveys have been launched, randomly selected participants will be invited to take part in follow-up one-to-one interviews to enhance the quantitative data being collected through surveys.

Surveys for service providers will be administered once and will request information on their perspectives and learnings on the relationship between cannabis and mental health. Six months after this survey has been launched, randomly selected participants will be invited to take part in follow-up one-to-one interviews to enhance the quantitative data being collected through surveys.

P-HSJCC 2020-2021 Regional and Local Annual Reports Update

As per the Ministry of Health's reporting requirements, the Provincial, Regional and Local HSJCCs are required to report on their committee's activities twice a year through work planning and reporting.

Annual reports demonstrate the key outcomes from the previous fiscal year and ensures transparency and accountability across the network. It is also a great way of highlighting the impact of our work and showcases the accomplishments of the HSJCC Network.

P-HSJCC 2020-2021 regional and local annual reports were due for submission on **June 15th, 2021**. The Secretariat will be following up with regional and local committees Chairs that have not yet submitted their annual report to the Secretariat.

The Secretariat will be featuring highlights from some of the HSJCC regional and local committees as part of The Secretariat's annual webinar scheduled for August.

For any questions regarding annual report submissions please contact HSJCC Networking Coordinator Andrew Fairbairn directly afairbairn@ontario.cmha.ca .